

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
10 May 2001 (10.05.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 01/32180 A2**

- (51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: A61K 31/485, 9/48
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/GB00/04167
- (22) International Filing Date: 30 October 2000 (30.10.2000)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:  
9925872.5 1 November 1999 (01.11.1999) GB  
9928314.5 30 November 1999 (30.11.1999) GB
- (71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): RODEVA LIMITED [CY/CY]; Julia House, 3 Th Dervis Street, P.O. Box 3585, CY-1685 Nicosia (CY).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): RHODES, John [GB/GB]; 25 Nantfawr Road, Cyncoed, Cardiff, South Glamorgan CF2 6JQ (GB). EVANS, Brian, Kenneth [GB/GB]; 9 Merevale, St. Andrews Road, Dinas Powys, Vale of Glamorgan CF64 4HS (GB).
- (54) Agent: BURFORD, Anthony, F.; W.H. Beck, Greener & Co., 7 Stone Buildings, Lincoln's Inn, London WC2A 3SZ (GB).
- (81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- Published:  
— Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report.
- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

WO 01/32180 A2

(54) Title: COMPOSITION FOR TREATMENT OF CONSTIPATION AND IRRITABLE BOWEL SYNDROME

(57) Abstract: Constipation and Irritable Bowel Syndrome are treated by a delayed and sustained release composition of an opioid antagonist which commences release of the opioid antagonist in the mid to distal small intestine or ascending colon and provides sustained release along any remaining part of the small intestine and along the colon. Preferred opioid antagonists are naloxone and naltrexone.

Composition for Treatment of Constipation  
and Irritable Bowel Syndrome

The present invention relates to the use of an opioid  
5 antagonist, especially naloxone and naltrexone, for the  
treatment of opioid induced or idiopathic constipation or  
of Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS) by delayed and sustained  
release.

10 Opioids, including codeine phosphate and morphine, are  
widely used as analgesics and are known to cause  
constipation as a troublesome and often serious  
complication. The effect is particularly troublesome  
amongst in-patients requiring prolonged opioid therapy in  
15 high doses such as terminally ill patients with a malignant  
disease. Treatment of the constipation is usually by use  
of conventional laxatives, but it is often poorly  
controlled.

20 IBS is a functional bowel disorder consisting of  
abdominal pain and altered bowel habit. Pain is  
characteristically relieved by defecation and may be  
associated with increase or decrease in stool frequency,  
alterations in stool consistency, straining or urgency, a  
25 sensation of incomplete evacuation, passage of mucus or  
abdominal distention. The pathophysiology is poorly  
understood despite the fact that about a quarter of the  
population in the UK may exhibit the symptoms.

30 There has been no convincing evidence that any current  
drug regime is of proven benefit in the treatment of IBS.  
Primary treatment involves counselling and dietary  
modification. Drug therapy is considered to be beneficial  
if directed at individual symptoms. For diarrhoea  
35 predominant cases, anti-diarrhoeal drugs are used,  
particularly loperamide. For constipation predominant  
cases, ispaghula is often used to increase dietary fibre.

Where patients have pain and distension as predominant symptoms, antispasmodics are commonly used. Mebeverine and peppermint oil are often used in such cases. Other agents that have been tried, in treating IBS, include beta-blockers, naloxone, ondansetron, calcium channel blockers, simethicone, leuprorelin, octreotide and cholecystokinin antagonists, with variable results (Martindale The Extra Pharmacopoeia, 31st Edition (1996) p 1197).

10 Naloxone (17-allyl-6-deoxy-7,8-dihydro-14-hydroxy-6-oxonormorphine) is known to be a specific opioid antagonist and is given intravenously for the treatment of opioid overdose and to reverse therapeutic effects of opioids (for example postoperatively when opioids are used during surgery). It has a short plasma half-life of about 1h after parenteral administration. It is absorbed from the gastrointestinal tract and subject to considerable first-pass metabolism.

20 Naltrexone (17-(cyclopropylmethyl)-4,5 $\alpha$ -epoxy-3,14-dihydroxymorphinan-6-one) is known to have opioid-blocking activity. It is given orally in the treatment of opioid dependence as an aid to maintaining abstinence following opioid withdrawal. Naltrexone is more potent than naloxone and has a longer duration of action. Naltrexone is also used as an adjunct in the management of alcohol withdrawal.

Strong opioids delay gastrointestinal transit and patients treated with them experience marked constipation. The delay is partly mediated by opioid receptors in the gut. Naloxone has been shown to produce a laxative effect in patients with advanced cancer that are being treated with an opioid analgesic, although there were a number of instances of withdrawal observed. It appeared that the dose regime of naloxone was dependant on the dose of the constipation-causing opioid administered, however it was observed that any clinical use of naloxone should not

depend on the dose being estimated based on a measured plasma concentration. Indeed, the dose of the opioid was not the only consideration. Patients that have been on longer term treatment of opioids and are thus more physically dependent appear to be more sensitive to naloxone treatment and show more withdrawal symptoms (N.P. Sykes, *Palliative Medicine*, 1996, 10, 135).

It has been suggested (N.P. Sykes, *Palliative Medicine*, 1996, 10, 135) that oral naloxone might have a therapeutic role in treatment of opioid induced constipation and that a slow release formulation could offer 12 or 24 hour administration, although it has been conceded that this would increase the difficulty of reversing any withdrawal that occurred.

WO 99/22737 (Drell et al) discloses a method for treating or preventing a range of conditions, often side effects from the use of opioid analgesics, including both opioid induced and non opioid induced constipation by administering a quaternary derivative of noroxymorphone, especially methylnaltrexone. The noroxymorphone derivative may be enterically coated to delay the release of the drug. Systemic uptake is not totally avoided, but quaternary ammonium salts such as methylnaltrexone do not cross the blood-brain barrier to a significant extent thus minimising the reduction of any opioid induced analgesic effect.

US-A-4,774,230 (Tuttle et al) relates to the intestine specific delivery of opioid antagonists including naloxone and naltrexone for treating opioid induced and idiopathic constipation and IBS. The drug is targeted to the intestine by virtue of an inactive glucuronic acid derivative which is enzymatically cleaved by glucuronidase, in the lower intestine and particularly the colon. The glucuronic acid derivative may be in the form of capsules or tablets for oral administration and may have enteric

coatings such as polyacrylates or cellulose acetate phthalates.

US-A-4,987,136 (Kreek et al) relates to the treatment  
5 of a range of gastrointestinal dysmotility conditions including constipation and IBS by administering opioid antagonists such as naloxone or naltrexone. Preferably, the opioid antagonist will be in an oral sustained release form allowing sustained release along the gastrointestinal  
10 tract, in a pH independent manner. The sustained release formulation may be administered in a hard gelatin capsule.

There is a need to provide a therapeutic treatment that will relieve (opioid induced) constipation and treat  
15 IBS. The desired therapy would relieve opioid induced constipation without reversing the analgesic effect for which the opioid was intended.

The inventors have now found that an opioid antagonist  
20 specifically released, initially, in the mid to distal small intestine, especially the distal ileum, and/or ascending colon is effective in treating IBS and both opioid induced and idiopathic constipation.

25 Accordingly, in a first aspect of the invention, there is provided an opioid antagonist for use in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of a condition selected from constipation and Irritable Bowel Syndrome by targeting initial release of said antagonist to the mid to distal  
30 small intestine and/or ascending colon and providing subsequent sustained release of said antagonist along any remaining part of the small intestine and along the colon.

Preferably, initial release of the antagonist is  
35 targeted to the distal ileum and/or ascending colon and subsequent sustained release occurs along the colon.

The invention has particular application to the treatment of idiopathic constipation and especially opioid induced constipation.

5 Preferred opioid antagonists for use in the invention are naloxone and naltrexone and pharmacologically acceptable salts, derivatives and metabolites thereof.

10 Other opioid antagonists include methyl naloxone, nalmeferene, cypridime, beta funaltrexamine, naloxonazine, naltrindole, nor-binaltorphimine and any pharmacologically acceptable salts, derivatives and metabolites thereof.

15 References herein to pharmacologically acceptable derivative, include any derivative which has the same type of pharmacological activity as the relevant opioid antagonist.

20 In a second aspect of the invention, there is provided a composition comprising an opioid antagonist in an oral delayed and sustained release form which targets initial release of the opioid antagonist to the mid to distal small intestine and/or ascending colon and provides sustained release along any remaining part of the small intestine and  
25 along the colon.

Preferably, initial release of the antagonist is targeted to the distal ileum and/or ascending colon and subsequent sustained release occurs along the colon.

30

The presently preferred opioid antagonist is naloxone. This substance is particularly suited to administration by the oral route since it is known to be efficiently metabolised by the liver, which minimises its absorption  
35 into the blood circulatory system thus limiting the risk of systemic side effects, such as negation of systemic pain relief for which certain opioids are administered.

The delayed release is preferably provided by having the composition in an enterically coated capsule which will not dissolve in the stomach but will allow initial release of the opioid antagonist in the mid to distal small intestine and/or ascending colon and preferably will allow initial release of the opioid antagonist in the distal ileum and/or ascending colon.

The sustained release is preferably provided by a composition which releases the opioid antagonist over a period of 3 to 24 hours, more preferably 6 to 12 hours.

The composition preferably comprises an opioid antagonist dispersed in a matrix enclosed in a capsule which disintegrates upon reaching the mid to distal small intestine and/or ascending colon and preferably the distal ileum and/or ascending colon to allow subsequent sustained release of the opioid antagonist from the matrix.

The matrix may be a thermolabile matrix which begins to soften within the capsule as it moves along the gastrointestinal tract and releases the opioid antagonist over a sustained period.

The sustained release of the opioid antagonist can be achieved by use of a polyglycolised glyceride. The polyglycolised glyceride may be comprised of mono-, di- and triglycerides and of mono- and di- fatty acid esters of polyethylene glycol (PEG) and held in an enteric coated orally administrable capsule. The polyglycolised excipient acts as a particularly good matrix to release the opioid antagonist over a prolonged period. The enteric coating carries the capsule past the stomach to the mid to distal small intestine and/or ascending colon where it dissolves and the opioid antagonist is released along the target area over a period of hours. The polyglycolised glyceride can be adapted to have a different melting point and

hydrophilic-lipophilic balance (HLB) depending on the type and proportion of triglyceride and fatty acid esters of PEG used. Examples of commercially available polyglycolised excipients for use in the composition are those available  
5 from Gattefosse, France under the Trade Mark Gelucire.

Such compositions are particularly effective in the treatment of opioid induced constipation without reversing the analgesic effects of the opioid, as well as idiopathic  
10 constipation.

In a particularly preferred delayed and sustained release oral composition, the opioid antagonist is suspended in a polyglycolised glyceride, preferably  
15 Gelucire™, more preferably Gelucire™ 50/13, that is Gelucire™ with a melting point of 50°C and HLB value of 13, or Gelucire™ 42/12 and most preferably Gelucire™ 53/10 (providing about 12 h sustained release) or a matrix combination of Gelucire™ 50/13 and Gelucire™ 42/12 in the  
20 ratio 80:20 to 95:5 (providing 6 to 12, preferably 6 to 9 hours sustained release) especially in the ratio 82.5:17.5. The suspension is then dosed in a capsule and the capsule enteric coated.

25 An advantage of using a matrix, as described above, particularly the identified Gelucire™ combinations, in a composition for sustained release of an opioid antagonist is that there is a unique hydrophilic-lipophilic balance which allows the formation of an emulsion as the softening  
30 matrix travels along the intestine. It is believed that the physical characteristics of the matrix vehicle cause it to be located close to the gastrointestinal wall in transit and thus in close proximity to mucosa and local receptor sites. The combination of these features leads to improved  
35 exposure to receptor sites and a prolonged transit time.

Suitable enteric coating materials for use in the



present invention include cellulose acetate phthalate (CAP), polyvinyl acetate phthalate (PVAP) and hydroxypropyl methylcellulose phthalate, although preferable enteric coatings are those polymers based on acrylic and methacrylic acid. A suitable such material is the anionic methacrylate polymer sold under the registered Trade Mark EUDRAGIT™ S by Röhm Pharma GmbH of Darmstadt, Germany. EUDRAGIT™ S is a copolymer of methacrylic acid and methyl methacrylate in which the ratio of free carboxyl groups to ester groups is approximately 1:2 and having a mean molecular weight of 135,000. Coatings of acidic materials, such as that sold as EUDRAGIT™ L (composition as EUDRAGIT™ S but having a carboxyl/ester ratio of 1:1) or EUDRAGIT™ S may be used in the coating of tablets or capsules. It will be apparent to the skilled person that mixtures of substances, such as EUDRAGIT™ S and EUDRAGIT™ L, may be used as coating materials. Particularly preferred enteric coatings in accordance with the invention are EUDRAGIT™ S and LS (e.g. in a L:S ratio of 1:2).

20

The provision of the coating to the compositions of the invention may be achieved in conventional manner, e.g. by the use of spraying, fluidized bed, immersion tube and immersion blade techniques.

25

The coating can, and usually will, contain plasticiser and possibly other coating additives such as colouring agents, gloss producers, talc and/or magnesium stearate as well known in the coating art. In particular, anionic carboxylic acrylic polymers usually contain 10 to 25% by weight of a plasticiser especially diethyl phthalate, although the presence of such a plasticiser may not be necessary when using an aqueous suspension for coating.

35

Usually, the capsule into which the coated material is loaded will be a soft or, preferably, hard gelatin capsule although other capsules, such as cellulose-based capsules,

which will dissolve in the small intestine can be used.

A suitable unit dose for the treatment of constipation by opioid antagonists is in the range of 0.5 to 30 mg  
5 naloxone or the equivalent thereof.

The invention will now be illustrated by the following non-limiting Examples.

10

Example 1

A delayed, sustained release oral formulation was prepared as follows. Naloxone hydrochloride (10 mg) was  
15 suspended in 400 to 450 mg of a matrix of Gelucire™ 50/13 and Gelucire™ 42/12 (a polyglycolised glyceride supplied by Gattefosse, France) in the ratio 82.5:17.5 and the resulting suspension filled into a size No. 2 hard gelatin capsule.

20

Formulations were also prepared with naloxone suspended in the following polyglycolised glycerides: a) Gelucire™ 42/12, b) Gelucire™ 44/14, c) Gelucire™ 46/07, d) Gelucire™ 48/09, e) Gelucire™ 50/13, f) Gelucire™ 53/10, g)  
25 Gelucire™ 54/02, h) Gelucire™ 62/05, i) Gelucire™ 64/02, j) Gelucire™ 54/02 & Gelucire™ 46/07 50:50, k) Gelucire™ 62/05 & Gelucire™ 46/07 50:50, l) Gelucire™ 64/02 & Gelucire™ 46/07 50:50, m) Gelucire™ 54/02 & Gelucire™ 46/07 75:25, n) Gelucire™ 64/07 & Gelucire™ 46/07 75:25, o) Gelucire™ 54/02  
30 & Gelucire™ 46/07 30:70, p) Gelucire™ 64/02 & Gelucire™ 46/07 30:70, q) Gelucire™ 53/10 & Gelucire™ 42/12 92.5:7.5, r) Gelucire™ 50/13 & Gelucire™ 42/12 95:5, s) Gelucire™ 42/12, Gelucire™ 54/02 & Gelucire™ 46/07 5:45:50, t) Gelucire™ 42/12, Gelucire™ 64/02 & Gelucire™ 46/07  
35 7.5:42.5:50 and u) Gelucire™ 53/10 & Gelucire™ 42/12 90:10.

The capsules were then enteric coated using a 3% w/w

acrylic resin (Eudragit™ S) dissolved in an organic solvent mixture (methanol 10% v/v in acetone 90% v/v). Diethyl phthalate was included as the plasticiser and dimethicone 20 as a lubricant. 75 cm<sup>3</sup> of this mixture was used to coat  
5 100 capsules.

12 healthy, non-smoking volunteers were enrolled in a study to assess the effect of oral naloxone when taking oral codeine.

10

The study consisted of four 10-day study periods, with at least two weeks between each, which were in a randomised order and the capsules being administered daily in a double blind manner. The capsules in each case were A (codeine  
15 phosphate 30 mg or placebo) and B (naloxone 10 mg or placebo) and the study conducted such that all four combinations of treatments were given, that is to say placebo only, codeine with placebo, placebo with naloxone and codeine with naloxone. The capsules were administered  
20 twice a day ("bd"). The naloxone formulation used was that in a matrix of Gelucire™ 50/13 and Gelucire™ 42/12 in the ratio 82.5:17.5.

The study protocol was as follows: On day 0, subjects  
25 were given capsule B and on days 1 to 9, were given capsules A and B. On days 3 to 6, the subjects took transit markers; packaged in distinctly coloured capsules, each containing 20 different shaped radio opaque marker pellets (Dunn Clinical Nutrition). From day 7, the  
30 subjects' next two bowel motions were collected. A normal diet was adhered to throughout the study period and recorded on days 3 to 6.

The results of the study are presented in tables of  
35 gut transit times. Table 1 shows the gut transit time of all 12 patients in the study for the control period and for the periods of treatment with codeine, naloxone and the

combined treatment. Table 2 shows gut transit times for only those patients whose gut transit time was increased when taking codeine.

5

Table 1: Gut transit times of all patients (n=12)

	Minimum (h)	Maximum (h)	Median (h)	Mean (h)	SEM <sup>a</sup>
Control period	38.00	74.00	52.35	53.08	3.03
Codeine 30 mg bd <sup>b</sup>	25.22	84.00	56.76	57.27	5.18
Naloxone 10 mg bd <sup>b</sup>	27.40	63.91	38.85	42.13	3.69
Combined therapy	26.20	74.00	36.60	40.74	3.96

<sup>a</sup> SEM = Standard Error of the Mean; <sup>b</sup> bd = twice a day

10

Table 2: Gut transit times of 8 patients whose transit time was increased by codeine (n=8)

	Minimum (h)	Maximum (h)	Median (h)	Mean (h)	SEM <sup>a</sup>
Control period	38.00	64.00	48.95	50.44	3.02
Codeine 30 mg bd <sup>b</sup>	50.42	84.00	67.85	66.17	4.21
Naloxone 10 mg bd <sup>b</sup>	27.40	63.91	37.95	41.41	5.08
Combined therapy	27.40	74.00	39.22	42.40	5.44

<sup>a</sup> SEM = Standard Error of the Mean; <sup>b</sup> bd = twice a day

15

Statistical analysis of the above results was carried out and the results of this analysis are expressed as P values in Table 3.

20

The results appear to be a good approximation to a normal distribution. For the sake of clarity both parametric and non-parametric statistics have been performed.

Table 3: Significance of difference between groups of paired data

	Student's test		Wilcoxon rank	
	All patients	Codeine affected	All patients	Codeine affected
Control vs. codeine	0.459	0.001	0.48	0.12
Control vs. naloxone	0.005	0.034	0.006	0.036
Control vs. combined	0.024	0.201	0.028	0.161
Codeine vs. naloxone	0.020	0.000	0.034	0.012
Codeine vs. combined	0.007	0.002	0.023	0.017

5        The experiment showed that naloxone alone and naloxone with codeine both produced reduced gut transit time. This indicates that the naloxone preparation accelerates gut transit by blocking opioid receptors and hence is effective in both opioid induced constipation and idiopathic  
10    constipation.

#### Example 2

15        In a further study, the procedure of Example 1 was substantially followed using Gelucire™ 53/10 & Gelucire™ 42/12 95:5 as the polyglycolised glyceride matrix. The capsule was enterically coated with a mixture of acrylic resin materials (Eudragit™ LS) which caused the capsule to  
20    remain intact until the mid small intestine. The glyceride provided a harder melt than Gelucire™ 50/13 & Gelucire™ 42/12 82.5:17.5 and released the naloxone over a 12 hour period.

25        12 male volunteers throughout each of four 10-14 day study periods were given a fixed dose of naloxone (5mg bd, 10mg bd, 20mg bd or identical placebo). The gut transit time was measured at the end of the first week. During the second week, each volunteer was also given 30mg bd codeine

and gut transit times measured again at the end of the second week.

The outcome of the study was that naloxone in all  
5 three doses was shown to accelerate gut transit time by  
blocking the opioid effect, with the 10 and 20 mg bd doses  
being more reliable.

10 Example 3

A 38 year old female patient with Irritable Bowel  
Syndrome having been subject to abdominal distension, pain  
and constipation for approximately ten years was treated  
15 with a naloxone hydrochloride formulation as used in  
Example 1, administered twice daily for one year. The  
treatment kept the patient almost symptom free for the  
duration of the treatment.

20

Example 4

A 66 year old female patient demonstrating the  
symptoms of Irritable Bowel Syndrome was administered,  
25 intermittently, with a similar dosage form of naloxone  
hydrochloride to that of Example 3 and showed substantial  
clinical benefit.

Claims

1. The use of an opioid antagonist in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of a condition selected from  
5 constipation and Irritable Bowel Syndrome by targeting initial release of said antagonist to the mid to distal small intestine and/or ascending colon and providing subsequent sustained release of said antagonist along any remaining part of the small intestine and along the colon.
- 10 2. A use as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the condition is constipation.
3. A use as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the condition is  
15 Irritable Bowel Syndrome.
4. A use as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 3, wherein said opioid antagonist is naloxone or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
- 20 5. A use as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 3, wherein said opioid antagonist is naltrexone or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
- 25 6. A use as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the constipation is opioid induced.
7. A use as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the initial release of the opioid antagonist is  
30 targeted to the ascending colon.
8. A use as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 6, wherein the initial release of the opioid antagonist is targeted to the distal ileum.
- 35 9. A composition comprising an opioid antagonist in an oral delayed and sustained release form which targets

initial release of the opioid antagonist to the mid to distal small intestine and/or ascending colon and provides sustained release along any remaining part of the small intestine and along the colon.

5

10. A composition as claimed in Claim 9, wherein said opioid antagonist is naloxone or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

10 11. A composition as claimed in Claim 9, wherein said opioid antagonist is naltrexone or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

12. A composition as claimed in any one of Claims 9 to 11,  
15 wherein the opioid antagonist is dispersed in a matrix enclosed in a capsule which capsule disintegrates upon reaching the mid to distal small intestine and/or ascending colon to allow subsequent sustained release of the opioid antagonist from the matrix.

20

13. A composition as claimed in Claim 12, wherein said matrix is a thermolabile matrix.

14. A composition as claimed in Claim 13, wherein said  
25 matrix comprises a saturated polyglycolised glyceride excipient including mono-, di- and triglycerides and mono- and dicarboxylic fatty acid ester of polyethylene glycol.

15. A composition as claimed in Claim 14, wherein said  
30 matrix comprises a polyglycolised excipient having melting point/HLB value of 53/10.

16. A composition as claimed in Claim 14, wherein said  
matrix comprises a mixture of polyglycolised excipients  
35 having melting point/HLB values of 50/13 and 42/12.

17. A composition as claimed in Claim 16, wherein said



mixture of 50/13 and 42/12 excipients are present in a ratio in the range 80:20 to 95:5.

18. A composition as claimed in any one of Claims 12 to 5 17, which capsule is an enteric coated gelatin capsule.

19. A composition as claimed in Claim 18, wherein the enteric coating comprises a copolymer of methacrylic acid and methyl methacrylate having a ratio of free hydroxyl 10 groups to ester groups of 1:1 to 1:2.

20. A composition as claimed in Claim 19, wherein the enteric coating comprises a copolymer of methacrylic acid and methyl methacrylate having a ratio of free hydroxyl 15 groups to ester groups of 1:2.

21. A composition as claimed in any one of Claims 9 to 20, containing the opioid antagonist in an amount of 0.5 to 30 mg naloxone or the equivalent thereof per unit dose. 20

22. A method of treating a condition selected from constipation and Irritable Bowel Syndrome comprising administering to a patient an effective amount of an oral delayed and sustained release composition which targets 25 initial release of the opioid antagonist to the mid to distal small intestine and/or ascending colon and provides sustained release along any remaining part of the small intestine and along the colon.

**THIS PAGE BLANK (USPTO)**

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
10 May 2001 (10.05.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 01/32180 A3**

- (51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **A61K 31/485**, 9/48
- (74) Agent: **BURFORD, Anthony, F.**; W.H. Beck, Greener & Co., 7 Stone Buildings, Lincoln's Inn, London WC2A 3SZ (GB).
- (21) International Application Number: **PCT/GB00/04167**
- (22) International Filing Date: **30 October 2000 (30.10.2000)**
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:  
9925872.5 1 November 1999 (01.11.1999) GB  
9928314.5 30 November 1999 (30.11.1999) GB
- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **RODEVA LIMITED [CY/CY]**; Julia House, 3 Th Dervis Street, P.O. Box 3585, CY-1685 Nicosia (CY).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **RHODES, John** [GB/GB]; 25 Nantfawr Road, Cyncoed, Cardiff, South Glamorgan CF2 6JQ (GB). **EVANS, Brian, Kenneth** [GB/GB]; 9 Merevale, St. Andrews Road, Dinas Powys, Vale of Glamorgan CF64 4HS (GB).
- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- Published:  
— with international search report
- (88) Date of publication of the international search report:  
20 September 2001
- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.



**WO 01/32180 A3**

(54) Title: **COMPOSITION FOR TREATMENT OF CONSTIPATION AND IRRITABLE BOWEL SYNDROME**

(57) Abstract: Constipation and Irritable Bowel Syndrome are treated by a delayed and sustained release composition of an opioid antagonist which commences release of the opioid antagonist in the mid to distal small intestine or ascending colon and provides sustained release along any remaining part of the small intestine and along the colon. Preferred opioid antagonists are naloxone and naltrexone.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/GB 00/04167

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
IPC 7 A61K31/485 A61K9/48

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
IPC 7 A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

WPI Data, PAJ, CHEM ABS Data

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 99 39700 A (VECTORPHARMA S.P.A., IT) 12 August 1999 (1999-08-12) claims page 14, line 14 - line 15 ---	1-22
A	EP 0 647 448 A (EUROCELTIQUE) 12 April 1995 (1995-04-12) claims page 5, line 26 ---	1-22
A	WO 83 03197 A (THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY, N.Y.) 29 September 1983 (1983-09-29) cited in the application claims --- -/--	1-22



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

### \* Special categories of cited documents:

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- \*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- \*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- \*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- \*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- \*X\* document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- \*Y\* document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- \*&\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

24 April 2001

Date of mailing of the international search report

03/05/2001

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Scarponi, U

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/GB 00/04167

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A,P	WO 00 03660 A (SKYEPHARMA) 27 January 2000 (2000-01-27) claims page 14, line 20 -----	1-22

1

Form PCT/ISA/210 (continuation of second sheet) (July 1992)

page 2 of 2

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/GB 00/04167

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 9939700	A	12-08-1999	IT M1980234 A	06-08-1999
			AU 2723899 A	23-08-1999
			BR 9907683 A	14-11-2000
			EP 1051160 A	15-11-2000
<hr/>				
EP 647448	A	12-04-1995	AT 172376 T	15-11-1998
			AU 1780797 A	05-06-1997
			AU 4449399 A	14-10-1999
			AU 722358 B	27-07-2000
			AU 5299598 A	26-03-1998
			AU 6610594 A	12-01-1995
			AU 7445594 A	11-05-1995
			BG 62316 B	31-08-1999
			BG 99077 A	30-06-1995
			CA 2127166 A	02-01-1995
			CA 2133503 A	08-04-1995
			CZ 9401550 A	18-01-1995
			DE 69414046 D	26-11-1998
			DE 69414046 T	22-04-1999
			DK 636370 T	28-06-1999
			EG 20600 A	30-09-1999
			EP 0636370 A	01-02-1995
			ES 2124372 T	01-02-1999
			FI 943141 A	02-01-1995
			FI 944712 A	08-04-1995
			HU 70938 A	28-11-1995
			HU 74916 A, B	28-03-1997
			IL 109944 A	06-12-1998
			JP 7149648 A	13-06-1995
			JP 7206679 A	08-08-1995
			NO 942470 A	02-01-1995
			NO 943761 A	10-04-1995
			NZ 260883 A	24-06-1997
			PL 304062 A	09-01-1995
			SG 50706 A	20-07-1998
			SK 76394 A	09-08-1995
			US 5968551 A	19-10-1999
			ZA 9407742 A	18-05-1995
<hr/>				
WO 8303197	A	29-09-1983	AT 56355 T	15-09-1990
			CA 1212323 A	07-10-1986
			DE 3381877 D	18-10-1990
			EP 0103636 A	28-03-1984
			IT 1212714 B	30-11-1989
			JP 4005647 B	03-02-1992
			JP 59500418 T	15-03-1984
			US 4987136 A	22-01-1991
<hr/>				
WO 0003660	A	27-01-2000	AU 5003099 A	07-02-2000
			NO 20010264 A	06-03-2001

Form PCT/ISA/210 (patent family annex) (July 1992)